

### REMARKS

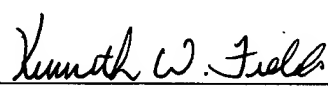
Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters. It is respectfully submitted that this response addresses the formal matters identified by the Examiner, and therefore, that the application is in condition for allowance.

In particular, Applicants note that claims 18-28 have been canceled, thereby retaining allowable claims 1-17 in the application.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Kiyomi SAKAMOTO et al.

By:   
Kenneth W. Fields  
Registration No. 52,430  
Attorney for Applicants

KWF/ra  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
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